ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2012 Kuskokwim Bay Salmon Fishery News Release 10 Districts 4 and 5 to Open to Commercial Salmon Fishing

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at Bethel for commercial salmon fishermen in the Kuskokwim Area.

District 4, Quinhagak

District 4, Quinhagak, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 8, 2012 and for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Friday, August 10, 2012.

Preliminary harvest reports from the August 6 opening indicate a harvest of 1,103 coho; 521 chum; 75 sockeye; and 20 Chinook salmon from 36 permits. Coho salmon harvest and catch rate were below average. Chum salmon harvest and catch rate were average.

In District 4 subsistence salmon fishing will be closed 8 hours before, during, and 4 hours after each commercial fishing period.

District 5, Goodnews Bay

District 5, Goodnews Bay, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 8, 2012 and for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Friday, August 10, 2012.

Preliminary harvest reports from the August 6 opening indicate a harvest of 445 sockeye; 145 coho; 108 chum; and 8 Chinook salmon from 13 permits. The harvest and harvest rate of sockeye and chum salmon were average. The harvests and harvest rates of coho salmon were below average.

In District 5 subsistence salmon fishing will be closed 8 hours before, during, and 4 hours after each commercial fishing period.

The Department will be closely monitoring commercial fishing periods to assess fishery performance and anticipates announcing additional commercial fishing periods as warranted. Further announcements will be made from the Bethel Fish and Game office, on the state web site (http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

For additional information or questions regarding Districts 4 and 5 and Kuskokwim Area fisheries, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in the Bethel at 543-2433 or toll free at 855-933-2433.